



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
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## News Release

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### **Bergeson, Braddock to address children's issues at Board of Health meeting**

**OLYMPIA** – As Washington's children face increasingly complex health risks, two of the state's leading children's advocates will present new initiatives to address these concerns at the State Board of Health meeting in Olympia, Jan. 10.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry Bergeson and Department of Social and Health Services Secretary Dennis Braddock will share their expertise at the regular meeting of the State Board of Health. The 9 a.m. board meeting takes place at the West Coast Hotel, 2300 Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia.

"The health of Washington's children is a major priority of the State Board of Health," said Linda Lake, chairperson of the Washington State Board of Health. "We are excited to work with other state agencies to accomplish ways to improve the health of children."

Bergeson will focus on food safety in schools, violence prevention, health screening requirements for school-aged children, education-reform activities that focus on health education, and a new Nursing Corps in the state's education service districts.

Braddock, former chair of the Board of Health, will brief members on the causes of child deaths in Washington and child safety recommendations to his agency from independent reviews. He'll also speak to his agency's, "Kids Come First Action Agenda," which makes protection of children one of DSHS' highest priorities. Braddock will stress the importance of community partnerships between the Department of Social and Health Services and local groups to keep children safe from neglect and abuse.

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The State Board of Health is composed of 10 members appointed by the Governor to represent the people of the State. The Board's mission is to develop policies to promote, protect, maintain, and improve the health of Washingtonians. Visit the Board's website at [www.doh.wa.gov/sboh](http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh).